



## Memorandum

Date: May 3, 1999

To: Federal-State Small Group

From: Mary Selkirk *Mary Selkirk*

Subject: Outcomes/Actions from April 27 Small Group meeting

### **Preferred Program Alternative description**

**Outcome:** Agencies will submit final comments through May 4, bring to Small Group on May 4 for revisions.

**Information:** CALFED/Agency joint meetings on May 10-11 to go over comments on the Preferred Alternative, Impact Analysis and to work through any potential conflicting agency comments.

### **Phase II Report revisions**

**Outcome:** Initial brainstorming meeting with CALFED staff and federal and state coordinators, Alf Brandt and Patrick Wright scheduled for Tuesday, May 4 in the afternoon. Ryan Broddrick confirmed with Patrick that state agencies needed to get their initial ideas to Patrick prior to that time.

Discussion of alternatives for seeking stakeholder review. No decision reached.

Mike Spear expressed concern that there would be no additional detail on the Environmental Water Account ready for the Phase II Report. Alf Brandt said he thought that there would be more definition on the scope of the Account.

**Outcome:** Lester said he would have something in writing on the EWA within the next two weeks. In addition he pointed out that this description will go into Phase II Report, but that high level discussion could take place at the June Policy Group meeting.

**Lead:** Ron Ott

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#### **CALFED Agencies**

##### **California**

The Resources Agency  
Department of Fish and Game  
Department of Water Resources  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
State Water Resources Control Board

##### **Federal**

Environmental Protection Agency  
Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Reclamation  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Department of Commerce  
National Marine Fisheries Service

### **South Delta**

**Outcome:** Small Group made slight changes to Stein Buer's summary memo of outcomes of April 21 meeting of Lester, Mike Spear, Ryan Broddrick, Kathy Kelly and Kirk Rodgers.

**Lead:** Stein will make changes.

Discussion evolved into discussion of the relationship between conservation strategy and ERP.

**Outcome:** Lester stated that CALFED staff is working on a piece showing the integration of the ERP and the Conservation Strategy. This piece will be brought to the Small Group next week.

**Outcome:** The SDIT will complete the matrix which Stein Buer presented, to use for comparing the barrier/non-barrier alternatives in the South Delta. Date of completion: Small Group meeting, May 4. Stein agreed to the May 4<sup>th</sup> deadline while cautioning that some of the analyses are not yet completed. Mike Spear requested actual numbers, rather than ranking the alternatives.

A.J. Yates raised the question of where you offset credits in habitat created in other parts of the program, and whether mitigation needs to be identified for each individual project.

**Outcome:** Lester requested combining the two "four barrier" alternatives into a single alternative, and also to create an alternative which eliminates the Grant Line Canal. Stein Buer replied yes, and the Small Group concurred.

### **B(2) and TRO**

Long and detailed discussion of b(2) and implementation of the Delta smelt biological opinion.

USBR requested Small Group direction on their request for joint point of diversion to the State Board, and permission to acquire water with Bay Delta Act monies for federal and state make-up.

**Outcome/Action:** Water Acquisition--Lester proposed two different pots of money for water acquisition, with 50% of funds coming from the Bay Delta Act (ecosystem money) and 50% from the FY 2000 non-ecosystem federal appropriations. Kirk Rodgers, USBR and Alf Brandt, DOI committed to look into this possibility and bring back to Small Group next week on May 4.

**Outcome/Action:** Joint point letter--Jerry Johns proposed postponing the letter until the fall, Small Group concurred.

Jerry Johns also proposed sending a "for your information/heads up" letter to the Board now on this.

**Lead:** Alf Brandt agreed to get this issue in front of the Federal agencies and make a decision as soon as possible. This will be on the Small Group agenda next week.

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**Federal 2001 Budget**

David Cottingham reported to Steve that he needs to get 2001 budget requests from agencies as soon as possible.

**Outcome:** Tom Hagler said this will be on the federal family agenda next Monday.

Lester and Steve commented that agency budgets need to be integrally linked to CALFED bundles, and emphasized the importance of cross-cut budget for 2001. Mike Spear pointed out that only the House Appropriations Committee has expressed support for this.